

McNamara's Brand--XX

In the days when the west was wild other than with what has developed into Gingleism and cattle range free they were marked with identifications of owners branded into them.

In the wake of Robert McNamara's published admission that he and we were wrong in Viet Nam he was branded, by the major media most of all, by a double X with a bar. He was to, then a double crosses. For him "better late than never" was not the case.

Those who were most virulent in their attacks on him and their characterization were those who have to a large degree escaped their responsibility for what McNamara apologized for. Their responsibility for not reporting the truth, for not filling their responsibilities in a society like ours, for condemning those who tried to, that who instead of encouraging our international brigandage made it the most pressing of national needs - those who made it close to politically impossible for the wrong-headed President to do other than he did and berated all who tried. Major media, ~~xxxx~~ politicians, special interests, the military hierarchy s- many.

~~Still~~ Still not facing the realities of both the international situation and of how wrong what we did was under international law and our own laws, still refusing to face what really, cause the greatest of our military failures and the reasons for it, they have branded McNamara as a double-crosser for belatedly telling the truth and accepting the responsibility they still refuse to accept.

Whether in attempted self-justification or as a threat to others now and in the future or both it is the fact that the attacks on him are without precedent that I can recall.

(Pun on "McNamara's Band")